

**NOTICE OF EXEMPTION**

**To:** Office of Planning and Research  
State Clearinghouse  
P.O. Box 3044, 1400 Tenth Street, Room 212  
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

**From:** Department of Toxic Substances Control  
Sacramento Permitting and Corrective Action  
Branch  
8800 Cal Center Drive  
Sacramento, CA 95826

**Project Title:** Former Kearney-KPF Facility (CAD 9814219715), Second Post Closure Permit

**Project Location – Specific:** 1624 East Alpine Avenue

**Project Location – City:** Stockton

**Project Location – County:** San Joaquin

**Description of Project:**

This second Post Closure Permit, requires the facility to continue to operate and maintain the groundwater treatment system that consists of a groundwater extraction well field, UV/OX units to treat 1,4-dioxane and volatile organic compounds (VOCs), an air stripper, an injection well, and a storm water basin, until the groundwater clean-up standards have been accomplished. The second Post Closure Permit provides for pumping and treating groundwater and monitoring the site for at least an additional 30 years or until cleanup standards have been met. Forty-three (43) wells are monitored. The facility submits both quarterly monitoring reports and monthly operations reports to the Department of Toxic Substances Control and the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board.

**Background:** The facility was founded in 1951 as KPF Electric Company, occupying approximately 12.5 acres of land at 1624 E. Alpine Avenue, and was purchased by Kearney-National, Inc. in 1984. The facility has been used for manufacturing high-voltage switching devices used by utility companies. Two manufacturing processes, silver plating and galvanizing, resulted in the generation of hazardous wastes. The facility was certified closed, after the contaminated soil had been removed, and issued a Post Closure Permit on March 25, 1992, to clean up the groundwater. The facility was issued a Post Closure Permit by DTSC on March 25, 1992, which required the facility to pump and treat groundwater contaminated by the facility to clean-up standards. That Post Closure Permit expired on March 25, 2002, at which time the facility submitted a Post Closure Permit Renewal Application

In 1999 Kearney-National, Inc., sold the site to Alpine Builders, Inc., which has developed the site for mixed commercial uses. The current owner, Alpine Builders, Inc., rents space to various businesses. These businesses engage in trucking, equipment storage, auto repair, and construction. Structures on the site include an office building, several carports, and several manufacturing buildings. The entire site is surrounded by a six-foot high chain-link fence. A small building was erected in 2002 to house the UV/OX equipment associated with the groundwater treatment system. A chain link fence was erected around the treatment system. The treatment system operates automatically and its operation is monitored remotely via the internet.

**Ongoing treatment activities:**

Kearney operates a groundwater extraction well field, groundwater treatment system, and an injection well. Groundwater extraction and treatment for volatile organic compounds (VOCs) using air stripping and granular activated carbon (GAC) began at the Site in 1993. However, groundwater extraction and treatment was suspended in late 1998 when 1,4-dioxane was found in the treatment system effluent. The original system was not designed to treat 1,4-dioxane was upgraded to include ultra violet/oxidation (UV/OX) units as well as upgrades and improvements to the existing controls. The improved system is currently operating and its upgrades are incorporated to revised post closure permit.

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:** Department of Toxic Substances Control  
Sacramento Permitting and Corrective Action Branch (DTSC)

**Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:** Kearney National

**Exempt Status:** *(check one)*

- ☐ Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);  
☐ Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(A));

- ☐ Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));  
☐ Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Statutory Exemptions. State code number: \_\_\_\_\_  
☒ General Rule (Sec. 15061(b)(3))

**Exemption Title:** With certainty, no possibility of a significant effect on the environment.

**Reasons Why Project is Exempt:**

1. Evaluation of the treatment system by DTSC and the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) indicates that the system is adequate, working as designed and protective against further groundwater contamination.
2. The monitoring program meets the requirements for water quality monitoring and response programs pursuant to California Code of regulations Title 22, Division 4.5, Chapter 14. The current monitoring and reporting requirements plan are being maintained with the addition of the addition of 1,4 Dioxane to the list of chemicals and the additional of a new point of compliance well. Chemicals detected show a consistent stable levels and an overall trend of decreasing concentrations over time.
3. DSTC toxicologists have determined that no land use restrictions on the surface use of the property are necessary and the onsite groundwater will not used as a drinking water source. The property is currently is industrial uses.
4. Post-closure activities are carefully regulated to assure against the potential for any additional environmental concerns. Financial assurance requirements have been revised to incorporate current costs and those of the new equipment and the operations. Costs have also been revised to assure site operations and maintenance for 30 years from the new post- closure permit.
5. The air emissions from the (UV/OX) and air stripper are periodically monitored and are below the threshold of 2 lbs. per day allowed by the San Joaquin Valley Air Quality Management District.
6. Annual inspections have proven adequate to maintain the impervious surface cap.

Douglas P. O'Neal  
Lead Agency Contact Person

( 916 ) 255-3593  
Phone #

DTSC Branch Chief Signature

Date

James M Pappas, P.E., Chief  
DTSC Branch Chief Name

Sacramento Permitting and Corrective  
Action Branch  
DTSC Branch Chief Title

**TO BE COMPLETED BY OPR ONLY**

**Date Received For Filing and Posting at OPR:** \_\_\_\_\_